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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

August 6, 1980

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT (Month of July, 1980)

Seismic exploration for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters registered another sizeable gain during the last thirty days according to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists. The Society's most recent monthly survey, issued today, reported the total number of seismic land crews and marine vessels active during July was 556, up twenty-one crews since June. The 556 total is the highest recorded since the fourth quarter of 1956.

The July total (556) represents an increase of 4% over last month, a 37% increase over July, 1979, a 52% increase over July, 1978, a 77% increase over July, 1977, a 106% increase over July, 1976, a 94% increase over July, 1975, and a gain of 66% over the same month in 1974.

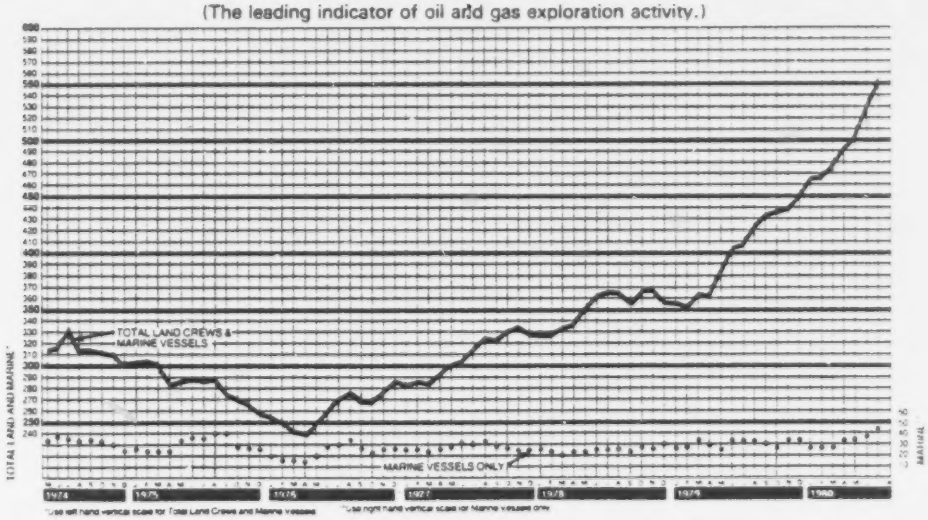
During July, six contractors were operating eight of their 475 land crews and none of their thirty-five vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	July'79	July'78	July'77	July'76	July'75	July'74
	556	535	407	367	315	270	286	334

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	July 1979	July 1978	July 1977	July 1976	July 1975	July 1974	This Mo.	Last Mo.	July 1979	July 1978	July 1977	July 1976	July 1975	July 1974
73 Contr's:	475	457	337	303	250	204	209	260	35	32	26	21	23	25	32	28
10 Oil Co's:	39	39	39	38	35	36	40	39	6	6	4	4	6	5	5	7
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	1	1	1	1	1	--	--	--
Totals:	514	496	376	341	285	240	249	299	42	39	31	26	30	30	37	35

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)

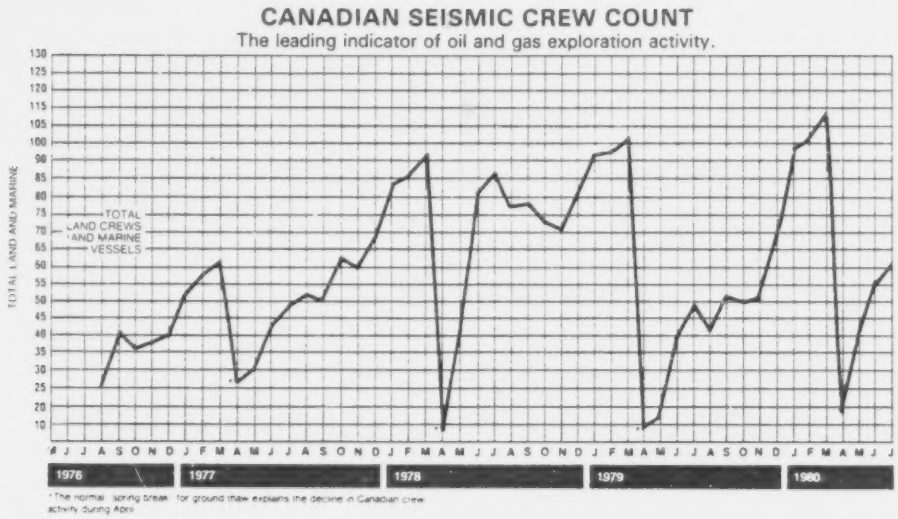


*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

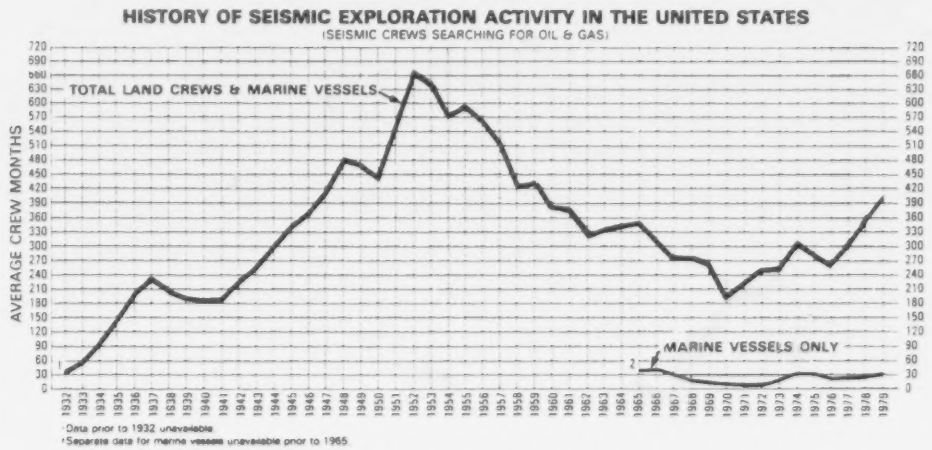
CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

July, 1980 (June figures in parentheses)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
28 Contractors:	54 (50)	2 (2)
4 Oil Companies:	4 (4)	1 (0)
Totals:	58 (54)	3 (2)


CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.
TOTAL LAND AND MARINE
TOTAL LAND CREWS AND MARINE VESSELS
J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J
1976
1977
1978
1979
1980
*The normal spring break up for ground thaw explains the decline in Canadian crew activity during April

SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.


HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION ACTIVITY IN THE UNITED STATES
(SEISMIC CREWS SEARCHING FOR OIL & GAS)
AVERAGE CREW MONTHS
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979
*Data prior to 1932 unavailable
†Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965

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